

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace Paragraph [0008] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

**[0008]** A flow control method for VC-Trunks in metropolitan-area network transmission equipment comprises at least the following steps:

A)- determining, by a R~~receiving-end transmission equipment detects whether there is a service data packet block congestion at in its a~~ VC-Trunks of the receiving-end equipment, if it is there is congestion at the VC-Trunk, sending a flow control packet with the a VC-Trunk tag is sent out out of the VC-Trunk to a transmission-end equipment;

B)- pausing, by Thea transmission-end equipment, a service transmission of the VC-Trunk according to the VC-Trunk tag in the flow control packet~~that has received the flow control packet pauses service data packets forwarding of the VC-Trunk according to the VC-Trunk tag in the flow control packet until the timing brought in by the flow control packet expires and there is no other new flow control packet comes.~~

Please delete Paragraphs [0009], [0010], [0011], [0012], [0013] and [0014] of the specification.

~~**[0009]** Said Step (B) further comprises that initiating flow control timer at the transmission equipment that has received the flow control packet; detecting whether the flow control timing is ended; if it is not, then wait.~~

~~**[0010]** Said Step (A) further comprises that initiating control timer at the receiving-end transmission equipment and send said flow control packet in a timing manner until the service data packet block is disappeared.~~

~~[0011] — It is better that said Step (A) also comprises that calculating individually number of received service data packets of every VC-Trunk at the receiving-end transmission equipment; detecting whether the number is excess the preset flow control threshold; if it is, send the flow control packet to the transmit-end transmission equipment.~~

~~[0012] — It is better that Step (A) also comprises that detecting whether the FIFO buffer of a VC-Trunk at the receiving-end transmission equipment is overflow; if it is, send the flow control packet to the transmission equipment physical port of the receiving-end.~~

~~[0013] — The flow control packet used in this invention is consisted of adding a VC-Trunk tag as a frame header to the 802.3x standard pause frame.~~

~~[0014] — Said VC-Trunk tags correspond to VC-Trunks one by one, and the VC-Trunk tag length is determined by the number of VC-Trunks.~~

Please add the following paragraphs:

[0009] A receiving-end apparatus for flow control of Virtual Container (VC) Trunks includes:

a first unit, configured for determining whether there is congestion at a VC-Trunk of the receiving-end apparatus, and sending out a flow control packet with a VC-Trunk tag of the VC-Trunk if there is congestion at the VC-Trunk.

[0010] A transmission-end apparatus for flow control of Virtual Container (VC) Trunks includes:

a first unit, configured for pausing a service transmission of the VC-Trunk according to a VC-Trunk tag received in a flow control packet.

**[0011]** A system for flow control of Virtual Container (VC) Trunks includes:  
a receiving-end apparatus, configured for determining whether there is congestion at a VC-Trunk of the receiving-end apparatus, and sending out a flow control packet with a VC-Trunk tag of the VC-Trunk if there is congestion at the VC-Trunk; and  
a transmission-end apparatus, configured for pausing a service transmission of the VC-Trunk according to the VC-Trunk tag received in the flow control packet.

Please replace Paragraph [0015] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

**[00150012]** The invention applies adding a VC-Trunk tag as a header to the 802.3x standard pause frame to form a flow control packet that individually reflects a VC-Trunk block situation, so each VC-Trunk data flow can be individually controlled without any mutual affection among VC-Trunks. In the invention, the flow control packet can be sent by software or hardware, thus the implementation is flexible. Comparing with the conventional technique, the invention solves both problems: in the SDH system there is no flow control, and previously general flow control technique it is only based on the physical port.

Please replace Paragraph [0016] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

**[00160013]** Further areas of applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description provided hereinafter. It should be understood

that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating the preferred embodiment of the invention, are intended for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention.